

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 /080 W

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R 241345Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY SANA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7185

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANA 0225

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, YE, YS

SUBJECT: YAR RELATIONS WITH PDRY

1. EMBASSY HAS REPORTS THAT ABDALLAH AL-KHAMIRI PDRY MINISTER WHO HAS PRIME RESPONSIBILITY FOR RELATIONS WITH YAR, WAS IN SANA LAST WEEK TO DISCUSS 1976 SCHEDULE OF VARIOUS JOINT COMMITTEES WITH YAR AND PDRY BEING SET UP FOR ECONOMIC, CONSTITUTIONAL, MILITARY AND OTHER SUBJECTS. COMMITTEES PRESUMABLY ARE LAYING BASIS FOR UNITY BUT ARE IN FACT FORM OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

BETWEEN TWO STATES WHICH REGARD EACH OTHER VERY WARILY.

2. KHAMIRI ALLEGEDLY PUSHED HARD OLD PDRY IDEA OF SETTING UP TAX-FREE TRANSIT AREA IN PORT ADEN FOR

IMPORT OF CONSUMER OR ANY OTHER KIND OF GOODS BUT ANOTHER OBJECTION TO PDRY PROPOSAL WAS DESIRE OF ADENIS FOR ALL TRADE TO BE IN HARD CURRENCY RATHER THAN RIALS. THIS WOULD BE AMOUNT OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE
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WINDFALL FOR SOUTHERNERS AND YARG NOT RPT NOT INTERESTED

IN BEING OF ASSISTANCE IN THIS WAY.

3. HARD TO MEASURE DEGREE OF ECONOMIC DIFFICULTY IN SOUTH, MUCH LESS DEGREE ECONOMICS AFFECTS POLITICAL DECISION-MAKING IN SOUTH, BUT ACCORDING TO RECENT VISIT TO SANA OF MANUFACTURERS HANOVER TRUST REP, WHO HAD JUST BEEN TO ADEN, THE \$8-9 MILLION LINE OF CREDIT WHICH HE OPENED THERE FOR SHORT TERM COMMERCIAL TRANSACTIONS REPRESENTED ONE-THIRD OF ALL FOREIGN CURRENCY ASSETS WHICH PDRY COULD CURRENTLY LAY HANDS ON.

4. YARG IS WATCHING PDRY WITH UNABATED SUSPICION. ACCORDING TO MINSTATE AHMED ABDO SAID, YAR BORDER AREAS IN SOUTH CONTINUE TO BE QUIET WITH FEW OR NO POLITICAL INSPIRED ACTS OF SUBVERSION, SABOTAGE OR PROPAGANDA. OTHER SOURCES IN SANA, HOWEVER, INCLUDING SECURITY CHIEF MUHAMMAD KHAMIS, SAY THAT IN PERIOD SINCE UNIFICATION OF PARTY, INCIDENTS IN SHAFAI BORDER AREA HAVE BEGUN TO INCREASE.

5. ALSO IT MAY BE SIGNIFICANT IN THIS REGARD THAT "STATE SECURITY COURT" (WHICH ESTABLISHED IN 1973 TO HANDLE THE LARGE SCALE PDRY ATTEMPTS AT SUBVERSION AT THAT TIME) HAS ISSUED SERIES OF SENTENCES. THIS IS FIRST PUBLICIZED ACTIVITY OF COURT SINCE LAST AUGUST. ANNOUNCEMENT STATED TWO EXECUTIONS HAD BEEN CARRIED OUT FOR 1973 AND 1974 MURDERS WHICH HAD POLITICAL OVERTONES IN NADRA AND BAYDA. THE ANNOUNCEMENTS ALSO NOTED "SEVERAL PRISON SENTENCES", WITH NO DETAILS GIVEN, AND 21 ACQUITTALS, ALSO UNSPECIFIED.

COMMENT: IT IS POSSIBLE THAT DIVISIONS WITHIN PDRY OVER PROPOSED RAPPROACHMENT WITH SAUDIS AND OTHER MODERATE ARABS, PLUS ABANDONMENT OF DHOFAR WAR, COULD HAVE LED TO SOME SPOILING ACTIONS IN SOUTH OF YAR BY NF PARTY ELEMENT WHICH INTENT OF MAINTAINING RADICAL COURSE. IF SO, WE THINK INCIDENTS HAVE BEEN SCATTERED AND RELATIVELY SMALL AND WE WOULD NOT EXPECT ANY SUBSTANTIAL CHANGE IN YAR-PDRY RELATIONS FOR EITHER GOOD OR ILL UNTIL TALKS WITH SAUDIS ARE BROUGHT TO SOME KIND OF CONFIDENTIAL

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CONCLUSION.
RANSOM

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